

whip indicates some particular movement of a particular limb.

Watch how the exhibit stands to attention while under the judge's eye, to be allowed to stand at ease after the inspection. Here, again, however, some men fail. Having shown their charges to the best of their ability, and possibly done their work well, they seem to consider the whole matter settled, and often allow the judges to get a glimpse of the animal in their charge standing anyhow and anyhow except in the position they should be looked at.

The knowing ones follow the judges with their eye, ready to use the light whip or pull the leading rein the moment the judge casts his eye in their direction.—[Robert Bruce, in Live-stock Journal (Eng.).]

Reject Unsuitable Breeding Stock.

We have persistently advised the use of pure-bred sires in the breeding up of live stock, and many men have gone further by displacing their graded stock by pedigreed animals of considerable merit. There is now another step to be taken that is quite as important as breeding out the scrub blood or substituting pure-bred for grade stock. We refer to the necessity of culling out all unsuitable breeding animals in every herd and stud of the country, writes A. S. Alexander, in "Farmers' Review." Hundreds of bulls, boars and rams are being sold for breeding purposes each year that are doing harm instead of good, and that should have been castrated by their breeders. It is hard to get breeders to attend to such matters as this. They can usually find buyers for indifferent sires, and so take the chance when it presents itself. But the policy is ruinous in the end. The reputation of the breed and herd is at stake in the sale of every animal that goes off the farm for breeding purposes.

The breeder cannot afford to sell a poor representative of his herd if he will but stop to think the matter over fully. By castrating the poor individual he will make a profitable feeding animal and spoil a bad sire. If he sells, he but enlarges the number of scrub pure-breds in the land, and their number is getting to be enormous. If there is anything that will hurt the pure-bred stock business worse than the continued selling and use of poor individual sires and dams we have not heard of it, and we are convinced that the time has come to act honestly and severely in this direction. Not every man who wishes to improve his live stock knows how to select a representative sire of the best individuality. For this reason he has to trust to the honesty of the breeder whom he asks to make the selection for him. He may state that he does not wish to pay a high figure, and the breeder very naturally takes advantage of the circumstances to send him a poor individual, that is cheap so far as cost is concerned, but terribly dear when we consider the mischief he will do in the herd to which he goes. The honest breeder who has at heart the best interests of his patrons and of the industry in which he is engaged, should never find himself in a position to supply a cheap and at the same time indifferent sire of any sort. He should castrate every animal of this kind, and have nothing but good individuals for sale. Were every breeder to act in this way the number of serviceable sires would be reduced, but their value would increase, and the value of the breed represented would also be certainly enhanced in time by the persistent use of nothing but first-class sires.

As it is, hundreds of indifferent sires are in use throughout the country, and their breed gets the blame of their bad deeds. Thousands of high-grade bulls are also being used. They show most of the breed characteristics of the blood predominating in their veins, but they do not possess breed prepotency, and cannot surely transmit breed type and quality. A few crosses of Hereford blood will, for example, give us a bull that shows a white face and other characteristics of the Hereford breed. But he is not a full-blood Hereford, and will not transmit his own characteristics perfectly. Indeed, he will be very likely to transmit scrub characteristics if he is mated with grade cattle. Such bulls hurt the breed, and the same thing is true of grade sires of all other breeds. They should be castrated. They are hurting our live-stock industry more than words can tell. But they are not the only offenders. There are just as many rank bad pure-bred sires in use throughout the land. They are poor individuals, but at the same time they possess breed prepotency, and for that reason may transmit some of the good points of their breed. But they are not good enough for the times. The best is none too good, and every breeder should make it his earnest endeavor to buy not merely the cheapest, but the best sire he can find, or send his females to one for service. Cull out the poor individuals. They will pay for feeding purposes; and the result of such work, carried out in wholesale fashion, will surely benefit all concerned.

Midsummer Meeting of Veterinarians.

Veterinarians are reminded of the midsummer meeting of the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association, to be held in the Masonic Temple, London, August 8th and 9th. The programme includes the name of Dr. C. H. Higgins, Ottawa; Prof. A. Smith, Toronto; Dr. W. R. Kincaid, London; Capt. T. E. Robson, Ilderton; Dr. R. Barnes, London; Dr. W. J. Wilson, London; Dr. J. H. George, Ingersoll; Dr. C. S. Tamlin, London; Dr. C. H. Sweetapple, Toronto; Dr. J. G. Rutherford, V. D. G., Ottawa; Richard Gibson, Delaware; A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge, and Dr. John H. Wilson, London; while Non. Nelson Monteith, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario; Dr. A. E. Moore, Ottawa, and G. A. Routledge, M. D., are down, conditionally, as speakers. Single-rate tickets may be purchased, accompanied by certificates to be stamped in London by the Secretary of the Old Boys' Association.

Among veterinarians, as among all other classes, progress results from the exchange of experience. The vet. who stays at home soon gets rusty and out-of-date. Come out to the convention, boys, and find out the latest ideas in the profession. For programme and particulars, address President J. H. George, Ingersoll; or Secretary R. Barnes, London.

Method of Feeding Calves.

The calves are given whole milk fresh from the cow twice daily during the first five to seven days, at the end of which time a portion of the whole milk is withheld from each ration, and warm separator milk substituted. At first not more than half a pint is substituted, and this is increased



Ivy Lass.

Hereford cow. Winner of first prize, Bath and West of England Show, and third at Royal Agricultural Society's show, 1906. Owned by Mr. G. D. Fisher, M. P., Wallingford.

daily, until, at the end of three weeks, the calf is on separator milk entirely instead of the whole milk.

When the feeder begins to withhold the whole milk, and to substitute the separator milk, he begins to teach the calf to eat whole oats. This is done by placing not more than a tablespoonful in the box in front of the calf after it has drunk the milk. The calf knows nothing of oats; but in nosing about it will get some of the oats in its mouth, and in a very short time will learn to like them. Whole oats are preferred to rolled or ground oats, for the husk of the oat is then so thoroughly attached to the grain that it will be masticated with the kernel, and the calf having sharp teeth will have no difficulty in grinding it.

The ration of oats will be gradually increased as more of the whole milk is withheld and separator milk substituted, until, at the end of three or four weeks, the calf will be getting half a pint twice a day. The amount depends on the calf, for some animals will eat the oats more readily than others. We have never had a calf refuse them entirely, and some animals will take quite a heavy ration. This is the manner of teaching all the calves on the farm to eat their first coarse feed, and is the way the animals in this experiment were reared.—[From Bulletin 48, Idaho Experiment Station.]

FARM.

Top-dressing Winter Wheat.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

In your issue of July 6th I see that "Constant Reader" gives his experience with top-dressing winter wheat, and his experience has been, according to his letter, very unsatisfactory. Now, we have followed top-dressing winter wheat for the last few years, and with very good results. We have not had any wheat smothered by the manure, but think, on the contrary, that the manure stimulated its growth.

One reason for "Constant Reader's" failure is that, instead of applying fine and well-rotted manure, he applied it fresh from the stables, and as it would be coarse and strawy it would be more likely to smother some grain. Manure, of course, loses value in rotting, but it should be in this condition before applying as a top-dressing to any growing crop.

Perhaps your correspondent applied it too thickly, which is a mistake often made; it should be applied very thinly. Although I have never used a manure spreader, I have the impression it would be excellent for top-dressing, as it would fine the manure and spread it evenly.

I advise "Constant Reader" to try the experiment another year on a smaller scale, following the advice given above, and see if he does not have better results, as I am of the opinion he will.

W. A. S.

Prince Edward Co., Ont.

Sow Clover by the Wayside.

A few weeks ago a member of our staff, passing along a hilly road that used to be rendered unsightly by the bare clay banks bordering the ditches, was pleased to notice a profusion of clover bloom. A boy had done some local improvement work four years ago by scattering clover seed over the bare spots in early spring. Favorable seasons followed, some of the clover seeded each year, and the trefoil spread till it occupied the whole roadside, crowding out weeds, protecting the clay banks from erosion, and making the highway attractive as a boulevard.

It is a pity there are not more people imbued with the spirit of this boy. The weed nuisance would be mitigated—for many weeds spread along the roadsides—the soil would be enriched, pasture would be afforded for stock, and country drives would have added charm.

Sow clover; sow it by the roadside, in the fence corners, about the buildings—wherever, in fact, there is a chance for a seed to grow. Every clover plant adds nitrogen to the soil, and provides a bite of the best stock forage known. From the standpoint, too, of home adornment, ten pounds of good clover seed judiciously broadcast each spring would be a far better investment than a dollar's worth of flower seeds. Flowers require attention after planting; clover grows, blossoms, and takes care of itself. What more incongruous than a big display of assorted flowers on the lawn, and a plantation of mullein, dock and other rank-growing weeds in the backyard?

Sow clover—red and white—boys and men; sow it thickly and early. Some will grow, and wherever it does it will crowd out weeds, its roots will enrich the land, its foliage will fatten your stock, its bloom will delight your eye, and its fragrance sweeten your thoughts. We don't half appreciate the aesthetic value of clover.

More About Short-turning Racks.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

The following I have used for some years, and it gives every satisfaction, is cheap and easily made, can be made for any rack, and any length desired: Use for sill a plank 2½ inches or 2 inches thick and 10 or 12 inches wide, according as your wagon is high or low, and cut out a piece from the lower edge of the sill, bolting a wagon tire on top to strengthen the weakened part.

IRA L. HOWLETT.

Wellington Co., Ont.